

10/534924

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EV323461882US, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on the date shown below.

Dated: May 13, 2005

Signature: 

(Linda J. Werk)

JC20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 13 MAY 2005

LA-7683-101.US  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Michael Frederick UNDERWOOD

Application No.: Not Yet Assigned

Group Art Unit: N/A

Int'l Filing Date: November 10, 2003

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: WASTE MANAGEMENT

**FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

**Amendment to the claims** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 7 of this paper.